

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-04 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4537

INFO AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

UNCLAS OTTAWA 3037

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA, US

SUBJ: ENERGY: CURTAILMENT OF B.C. NATURAL GAS EXPORTS
TO U.S.

1. OTTAWA CITIZEN OF SEPTEMBER 19 CARRIED VANCOUVER
DATELINED REPORT THAT NORTHWEST PIPELINE AND B.C.
GOVERNMENT TALKS THIS WEEK "REVEAL COMMON GROUND."

2. TEXT OF PERTINENT PORTION OF NEWS ARTICLE IS AS
FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE. THE BRITISH COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT AND NORTH-
WEST PIPELINE CORPORATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARE CLOSER
TOGETHER ON THE QUESTION OF PRICE AND SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS
EXPORTED FROM THE PROVINCE, PREMIER DAVE BARRETT SAID
WEDNESDAY.

HE MADE THE COMMENT FOLLOWING A MEETING ATTENDED BY JOHN
MCMILLIAN, PRESIDENT OF NORTHWEST; KELLY GIBSON, CHAIRMAN
OF WESTCOAST TRANSMISSION CO. LTD.; ATTORNEY-GENERAL
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ALEX MACDONALD; JAMES RHODES, CHAIRMAN OF B.C. PETROLEUM

CORPORATION, AND DR. ANDREWS THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE
B.C. ENERGY COMMISSION.

"THERE ARE NO DETAILS THAT I CAN GIVE YOU ABOUT OUR
DISCUSSION," MR. BARRETT SAID, "BUT I THINK THAT WE
ARE CLOSER THAN WE WERE BEFORE THE MEETING."

MR. MCMILLIAN WILL BE DISCUSSING THE GOVERNMENT'S
PROPOSALS WITH HIS COMPANY'S PRINCIPLES (SIC) AND B.C.
EXPECTS TO HEAR FROM HIM IN ABOUT A WEEK, MR. BARRETT
SAID.

MR. BARRETT SAID THERE WAS "A LOT MORE COMMON
GROUND" THAN BOTH SIDES HAD ANTICIPATED IN THE MATTER
WHICH CENTRES AROUND THE B.C. GOVERNMENT'S STATED
INTENTION OF SEEKING A HIGHER PRICE FOR NATURAL GAS
EXPORTED TO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST. END QUOTE.
PORTER

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